

U.S. Embassy in Singapore
Consular Section

<http://singapore.usembassy.gov>

<http://www.travel.state.gov>

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American Citizen Services (ACS) Newsletter

April - May 2009

The newsletter is our way of sharing topics of general interest as well as any changes in Embassy hours or procedures. We will continue to send time-sensitive announcements separately. If you need to update your registration, please click [here](#). Please share your feedback with us at SingaporeACS@state.gov. *Thank you!*

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Traveler Reminder

Travelers within the region should remember that Singapore and most neighboring countries do not allow Americans to enter with fewer than six months of validity remaining on their passport. For country specific information, please visit http://travel.state.gov/travel/travel_1744.html.

The IRS has created a new comprehensive tax page

The IRS has created a new comprehensive tax page on <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/international/article/0,,id=97324,00.html> which is directed to U.S. citizens who reside abroad. This page contains basic tax information that Americans overseas need to know and also includes links to more detailed topics such as the foreign earned income exclusion, foreign tax credit, reporting foreign bank accounts, Fulbright grants, state taxes, and a myriad of others.

Appointment System for Reporting a Birth Abroad

To report a birth abroad you must make an online appointment prior to coming to the Embassy. This online appointment system is designed to minimize the time spent at the Embassy by each applicant as well as ensure that each Report of Birth Abroad case receives an appropriate amount of attention. Please visit our information portal at http://singapore.usembassy.gov/birth_abroad.html.

Future Changes in ACS Operations

Over the next few months, the ACS Section hopes to implement changes to our operations which we believe will enable us to work more efficiently to meet the increasing demand from the American community for citizenship services while continuing to ensure that each case receives the highest level of attention and care. One of our aims is to minimize the amount of time those utilizing our services need to spend in our waiting room. Some of the changes you can expect to see will include an appointment system for renewing the passports of minors which require the presence of both parents, similar to the current system for reporting a birth abroad, and a drop-off system at the Embassy for those seeking to add pages to their passports. We also are planning to set aside a separate time period to pick up documents so you won't have to wait in a crowded waiting room while we deal with other more time-consuming cases. These and any other future changes will further our goal to provide efficient and professional service in a pleasant environment while maintaining the integrity of our processes.

Consular Section Closures – Holidays and Admin/Training Days

The Consular section will be closed on the following dates in April and May 2009.

Friday, April 10, 2009 Singapore Holiday – Good Friday

Thursday, April 23, 2009 – Admin/Training Day*

Friday, May 1, 2009 Singapore Holiday – Labor Day

Friday, May 8, 2009 Singapore Holiday – Vesak Day

Thursday, May 14, 2009 – Admin/Training Day*

Monday, May 25, 2009 U.S. Holiday – Memorial Day

* Admin/Training Days: We will be closed for all routine American Citizen Services such as passport renewal, extra passport pages and notarial services on these days. Regular services will resume the following day. For emergency services at any time during an Admin/Training day, please call 6476-9100 during normal business hours.

Holidays: The Embassy observes certain local and American holidays. On these days, the Consular Section will be closed. For an emergency involving an American citizen, please contact the Duty Officer at 6476-9100.

Updated Travel Information:

[Worldwide Caution](#)

Current Travel Alerts of Regional Interest:

Travel Alerts are issued to disseminate information about short-term conditions, generally within a particular country, that pose imminent risks to the security of U.S. citizens. Below please find links to current Travel Alerts for countries of regional interest. For a complete listing of Travel Alerts for all regions, please visit <http://travel.state.gov>.

[South Pacific Cyclone Season](#)

Current Travel Warnings of Regional Interest:

Travel Warnings are issued to describe long-term, protracted conditions that make a country dangerous or unstable. Below please find links to Travel Warnings for countries of regional interest. For a complete listing of Travel Warnings for all regions, please visit <http://travel.state.gov>.

[Nepal](#)

[Pakistan](#)

[Philippines](#)

[Sri Lanka](#)